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Substantive session of 1996
New York, 24 June-26 July 1996
Agenda item 4 (c)

OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION: CONSIDERATION OF THE REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARDS OF THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME/ UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND, THE UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND AND THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME

Extract from the report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund on its 1996 annual session

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I. DECISIONS ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND AT ITS 1996 ANNUAL SESSION

Decision No.	
1996/21	Follow-up to the World Summit for Children
1996/22	Greeting Card and related Operations work plan and proposed budget for 1996
1996/23	Report of the UNESCO/UNICEF Joint Committee on Education on its fifth meeting
1996/24	Report of the UNICEF/WHO Joint Committee on Health Policy on its special session
1996/25	Working group on documentation
1996/26	Medium-term plan for the period 1996-1999
1996/27	Children in need of special protection measures
1996/28	Conceptual framework for UNICEF emergency interventions

1996/21. Follow-up to the World Summit for Children

The Executive Board

1. Urges all Governments that have not yet completed the national process of review of progress towards implementation of the Declaration and Plan of Action of the World Summit for Children to do so during 1996 and also urges all countries to develop feasible and sustainable strategies and programmes to achieve the nationally adapted goals for children for the year 2000;

2. Requests the Executive Director, in consultation with all concerned parties, to extend full support to the Secretary-General in his reporting of progress made on the Declaration and Plan of Action of the World Summit for Children to the General Assembly on 30 September 1996, and to encourage all partners to make every effort to use the lessons learned from the mid-decade review to develop strategies and actions to achieve the goals for the year 2000.

Annual session
17 June 1996

1996/22. Greeting Card and related Operations work plan and proposed budget for 1996

A. Greeting Card and related Operations (GCO) budgeted expenditures for the 1996 season

The Executive Board

1. Approves for the fiscal year 1 May 1996 to 30 April 1997 budgeted expenditures of $99.8 million as detailed below and summarized in column II of annex I to document E/ICEF/1996/AB/L.11:

	(In millions of United States dollars)
Director's Office	0.8
Product Line and Marketing	59.6
Private Sector Fund-raising	10.5
Operations and Finance	14.4
Subtotal	85.3
Non-operating expenses:	
Market Development Programme	4.0
Fund-raising Development Programme	7.8
Exhibits	0.2
Office move related costs	0.7
GCO share in UNICEF administration costs	0.3
Central and Eastern European National Committee's Development Programme	1.5
Subtotal	14.5
Total expenditures, consolidated a/	99.8

a/ For details, see table 1A of document E/ICEF/1996/AB/L.11.

2. Authorizes the Executive Director:

(a) To incur expenditures as summarized in column II of annex I to document E/ICEF/1996/AB/L.11 and to increase the expenditures up to the level indicated in column III of annex I to the same document, should the apparent net proceeds from product sales and/or private sector fund-raising increase to the levels indicated in column III of annex I, and, accordingly, to reduce expenditures below the level indicated in column II to the extent necessary, should the net proceeds decrease;

(b) To transfer funds when necessary between the various budgets as detailed under paragraph 1 above;

(c) To spend an additional amount between Executive Board sessions, when necessary, owing to currency fluctuations, to ensure the continued operation of GCO;

(d) To personally approve actual expenditure of the travel and per diem costs of National Committee participants at the annual Greeting Card Workshops and related meetings.

B. Budgeted income for the 1996 season

The Executive Board

Notes that for the fiscal year 1 May 1996 to 30 April 1997, GCO net proceeds are budgeted at $274.4 million as shown in column II of annex I to document E/ICEF/1996/AB/L.11.

C. Policy issues

The Executive Board

1. Approves the changes in posts with a net increase of 8 posts as indicated in table 2 of document E/ICEF/1996/AB/L.11;

2. Renews the Fund-raising Development Programme with $7.8 million established for 1996;

3. Renews the Market Development Programme with $4.0 million established for 1996;

4. Renews the Central and Eastern European National Committees Development Programme, which includes 10 countries, with a budget of $1.5 million established for 1996;

5. Approves the change of the GCO fiscal year from 1 May-30 April to 1 January-31 December;

6. Authorizes the Executive Director to incur expenditures in the 1996 fiscal year related to cost of goods delivered (production/purchase of raw materials, cards and other products) for the 1997 fiscal year up to $45 million as indicated in the GCO medium-term plan (see table 13 of document E/ICEF/1996/AB/L.11).

7. Encourages GCO to work together with National Committees to ensure that a far larger proportion of funds raised by them are channelled to UNICEF general resources.

Annual session
19 June 1996

1996/23. Report of the UNESCO/UNICEF Joint Committee on Education on its fifth meeting

The Executive Board

1. Takes note of the report of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)/UNICEF Joint Committee on Education on its fifth meeting held at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris on 6 and 7 May 1996 (E/ICEF/1996/P/L.63) and the recommendations contained therein.

Annual session
20 June 1996

1996/24. Report of the UNICEF/WHO Joint Committee on Health Policy on its special session

The Executive Board

1. Takes note of the report of the UNICEF/World Health Organization (WHO) Joint Committee on Health Policy on its special session held at WHO Headquarters in Geneva on 15 and 16 May 1996 (E/ICEF/1996/P/L.64) and the recommendations contained therein.

Annual session
20 June 1996

1996/25. Working group on documentation

The Executive Board

Takes note of the interim report of the working group on documentation and the comments made thereon by the Executive Board at its 1996 annual session and encourages the working group on documentation to finalize its work and present a report, including recommendations, to the Executive Board at its third regular session of 1996.

Annual session
20 June 1996

1996/26. Medium-term plan for the period 1996-1999

The Executive Board

1. Takes note of the medium-term plan (E/ICEF/1996/AB/L.10), which constitutes a flexible framework for supporting UNICEF programmes, as well as the comments made by the delegations during the discussions on the report of the Executive Director;

2. Emphasizes the importance of the link between the implementation of the medium-term plan and the ongoing process and the expected outcomes of the Management Excellence Programme;

3. Underlines the necessity to engage in a debate on the overall funding and the allocation of financial resources, including the allocation for administrative and programme support costs;

4. Encourages, in this context, the Executive Director to ensure that, during the financial medium-term plan, the level of management and administrative costs does not exceed the current level in nominal terms;

5. Approves with this last provision the financial medium-term plan as a framework of projections for 1996-1999 (summarized in table 3 of document E/ICEF/1996/AB/L.10), including the preparation of up to $332 million in programme expenditures from general resources to be submitted to the Executive Board in 1997 (shown in table 2, item 3, of document E/ICEF/1996/AB/L.10). The amount is subject to the availability of resources and to the condition that estimates of income and expenditure made in this plan continue to be valid.

Annual session
20 June 1996

1996/27. Children in need of special protection measures

The Executive Board,

Having considered the review of UNICEF policies and strategies on children in need of special protection measures (E/ICEF/1996/14),

Recalling the tasks of UNICEF as reflected in relevant decisions as well as in the Mission Statement,

1. Endorses the perspective, policies and strategies presented in the document regarding measures to protect children from the risk of exploitation, violence, abuse, abandonment and other forms of special disadvantage, emphasizing that the special protection measures should be implemented within the framework of the rights of children;

2. Requests the Executive Director to take the necessary steps to:

(a) Incorporate the policies and strategies in document E/ICEF/1996/14 in all relevant UNICEF programmes through mainstreaming and the further development of preventive and protection programmes for all children, especially targeted towards those in need of special protection measures;

(b) Enhance UNICEF capacities to assist all member States in analysing the situation of children in need of special protection measures and in implementing policies and strategies to that end, where appropriate, in the context of the country programming process;

(c) Monitor UNICEF activities in the implementation of these policies and strategies at the country level through existing processes such as mid-term reviews;

(d) Strengthen UNICEF partnerships with agencies of the United Nations system, non-governmental organizations, all sectors of civil society and others who are active in the issues of children in need of special protection measures;

3. Further requests the Executive Director to report back to the Executive Board at its 1997 annual session on the steps taken within the framework of paragraph 2 above and, simultaneously, to present to the Board a plan and a time-frame for further implementation of these policies and strategies.

Annual session
20 June 1996

1996/28. Conceptual framework for UNICEF emergency interventions

The Executive Board

1. Takes note of the conceptual framework for UNICEF emergency interventions (E/ICEF/1996/16) as well as the comments made by delegations during the consideration of the document;

2. Requests the secretariat to finalize all the operational papers identified in decision 1996/2 (E/ICEF/1996/12 (Part I)) and present these papers to the Executive Board at its first regular session in 1997 in a consolidated form, reflecting a clear conceptual framework together with its operational implications.

Annual session
20 June 1996

II. EXTRACT FROM THE REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD ON HARMONIZATION OF BUDGET PRESENTATIONS

1. The Comptroller and Director of the Division of Financial Management made an oral progress report on the work being carried out by UNDP, UNFPA and UNICEF on budget harmonization.

2. She said that in her report to the Executive Board at its second regular session in April, she had stated that a preliminary comparison of budgets identified differences between those of UNDP and UNFPA and that of UNICEF. Those differences concerned not only presentation but also the scope and content of the budgets. It was possible that the different nature of each organization might affect the extent to which harmonization of all aspects of the budgets was desirable for the respective Executive Boards.

3. During the debates on this subject at the second regular sessions of both the UNDP/UNFPA and the UNICEF Executive Boards, one delegation had presented a comprehensive statement which was endorsed by other delegations. The statement set forth the basic purpose of harmonization and clearly identified the principles to be included in the harmonization efforts. Harmonization meant making the budgets more similar to promote understanding and support good decision-making. The similarities must go beyond content and presentation styles to encompass the underlying principles employed in the preparation of accounts and estimates. Similarity would not mean sameness.

4. The Comptroller expressed appreciation on behalf of UNICEF, UNDP and UNFPA for the guidance provided by the Executive Boards, both in terms of the general framework set forth for the harmonization exercise and the clarity in identifying specific aspects of harmonization that were of concern to both Boards.

5. She said that as reported to the annual session of the UNDP/UNFPA Executive Board in May, the three organizations currently were addressing harmonization under five main headings:

(a) The key issue of scope and content, mainly because of earlier concerns of the applicability to UNFPA and UNDP of the integrated approach adopted by UNICEF for its headquarters and regional offices budget. This referred to the incorporation of programme activities in biennial budget estimates. An in-depth review of global and interregional activities of the three organizations was being undertaken to determine the exact nature and comparability of those activities before the question of possible harmonization on the level of programme activities was addressed;

(b) An in-depth analysis to identify clearly what constitutes programme activities as opposed to activities in support of programmes. The latter group of activities would be further divided between those whose primary function is to support programmes and those whose primary function is general management and administration. The aim is to ensure that information can be compared across organizations;

(c) Common presentation styles, specifically the development of a common or fully comparable table reflecting resource utilization;

(d) Harmonization of key budgetary classifications, where the organizations currently are working on delineation and levels of aggregation for expenditure categories;

(e) Terminology for the identification of primary groupings of resources. Upon completion of the harmonization exercise, the organizations intend to submit the agreed terms with definitions to CCAQ for review and approval, so that they can be incorporated in the ACC glossary of financial terms.

6. The Comptroller stated that since the report to the UNDP/UNFPA Executive Board, further progress had been made. The organizations had focused primarily and come to an agreement on the second and third areas - the development of a common resource plan and the related definitions or components to be included under each heading. It was intended that the resource plan have three sections: (a) total resources available to the organization; (b) the use of resources, which would represent the backbone classified under three main headings (Programme activities, Programme support activities and Management and Administration of the Organization); and (c) a reconciliation between estimates included under the use of resources and the budget estimates.

7. An internal working paper summarizing discussions of the group and identifying the activities and units included under each proposed heading was made available to members of the UNDP/UNFPA and UNICEF Executive Boards at a joint informal briefing held on 12 June. This was the first time that a joint informal session was held by the two Executive Boards. The UNDP/UNFPA Executive Board had endorsed the UNICEF Executive Board's decision 1996/16, adopted at the second regular session, on the timing and nature of future reports on budget harmonization.

8. Delegations expressed appreciation for and satisfaction with the progress made on harmonization by the three agencies. Most speakers welcomed the innovative joint inter-sessional meeting and encouraged the secretariat to organize more informal sessions of this nature. Delegations stressed the need for continued dialogue and consultation, because of the technical nature of the subject. One speaker remarked on the progress made since the preparation of the resource table complete with budget amounts, which had been distributed during the joint intersessional meeting. The speaker said that Board members should harmonize their requests to the agencies. The Boards should concentrate on using harmonization for strategic financial management and refrain from micromanagement.

9. One delegation was pleased that the Comptroller had discussed progress made rather than provide a catalogue of difficulties encountered. However, it was difficult to assess how much progress had been made without expert advice, which was not the fault of the agencies. Although the effort towards harmonization has been delayed, they had gained momentum and it was expected that 1998-1999 biennial budgets would be presented using the harmonized format. This was a very important political issue for the speaker's Government, specifically for the civil servants who dealt with multilateral aid. The results of

harmonization would have an impact on the balance between his country's multilateral and bilateral aid.

10. One delegation encouraged the harmonization group to consider thoroughly the applicability of integrated budgeting to UNDP and UNFPA. Integrated budgeting as initiated by UNICEF should be the format to follow. Another delegation said that harmonization of budget presentations was advantageous to recipient Governments because it would reduce duplication of efforts by agencies and maximize the use of resources at country level. A delegation reiterated a request to have discussion papers on this subject made available in working languages.

11. The Comptroller expressed appreciation for the comments made. She reiterated the importance of a continued dialogue between Board members and the agencies so the secretariats could respond to specific requirements expected by the Boards from the harmonization exercise. She asked the Executive Board to provide the secretariat with further guidance on specific information expected from the agencies as a result of harmonization. Some speakers said that because of the technical nature of the subject, it would be helpful if the secretariat could prepare a list of its needs so that their missions could consult with experts from their capitals.

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OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION: COORDINATION OF ACTIVITIES ON A SYSTEM-WIDE BASIS: STRENGTHENING COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM AND THE BRETTON WOODS INSTITUTIONS IN THE AREAS OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AT ALL LEVELS, INCLUDING THE FIELD LEVEL

Costa Rica*: draft resolution

Strengthening collaboration between the United Nations development system and the Bretton Woods institutions

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 50/120 of 20 December 1995, on the triennial policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/50, in which the Council decided to place the subject on the agenda of its 1996 substantive session,

Reaffirming the goals contained in section VIII of annex I to General Assembly resolution 50/227 of 24 May 1996, concerning the relationship between the United Nations and international finance and trade institutions, and General Assembly resolutions 50/91 and 50/92 of 20 December 1995, dealing, respectively, with challenges and opportunities of global financial integration and enhancing international cooperation towards a durable solution to the external debt problem of developing countries,

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* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

Taking into account the ongoing deliberations on an agenda for development, in which issues relating to the strengthening of the relationship between the United Nations and the Bretton Woods institutions are being addressed,

Considering that the broad mandate of the United Nations development system, including the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and its expertise in dealing in an integrated manner with economic and development issues, globalization and interdependence provide a good basis for strengthening further cooperation with the Bretton Woods institutions,

Recognizing that strengthening the collaboration between the United Nations development system and the Bretton Woods institutions at the intergovernmental, intersecretariat and country levels, as complementary to and support for the existing United Nations mechanism, is particularly important for effectively promoting international cooperation for development,

Also recognizing that the significant number of practical examples of such collaboration is an encouraging sign of the efforts already undertaken and of the existing potentialities for further increasing such collaboration,

Recognizing further the importance of joint initiatives between the United Nations and the Bretton Woods institutions in coordinating efforts for the implementation and follow-up of the commitments of the major United Nations international conferences and summits,

Reaffirming that United Nations development assistance should continue to maintain its characteristics of neutrality and non-conditionality and that the recipient Government should play a leading role for the overall coordination of collaboration at the country level,

Deeply concerned about the significant decline in resources allocated to the operational activities for development of the United Nations system, the incomplete tenth replenishment of the International Development Association and prospects for the eleventh replenishment at significantly reduced real levels, which has a negative impact on the effectiveness of the United Nations and the Bretton Woods institutions in pursuing collaboration and their role in the field of development,

1. Takes note of the report by the Secretariat on strengthening collaboration between the United Nations system and the Bretton Woods institutions 1/ in the areas of social and economic development at all levels, including the field level;

2. Considers that the strengthening of collaboration between the United Nations and the Bretton Woods institutions requires a comprehensive approach, encompassing a closer policy dialogue at the intergovernmental level on global macroeconomic policy issues and new initiatives and measures at the country level;

1/ E/1996/72 and Corr.1.

3. Also considers that such a policy dialogue will be an important element in promoting coherence, while encouraging a plurality of analyses and views, on issues related to sustained economic growth and sustainable development, improving, therefore, the overall framework for cooperation between the United Nations development system and the Bretton Woods institutions at all levels, including the field level;

4. Emphasizes that the dialogue at the country level should be undertaken under the overall guidance of the national Government;

5. Stresses that, in the collaboration between the United Nations development system and the Bretton Woods institutions, the United Nations development system should continue to maintain its characteristics of neutrality and non-conditionality and that the recipient Government should play a leading role for the overall coordination of the collaboration at the country level;

6. Recognizes that concrete modalities for collaboration between the United Nations system and the Bretton Woods institutions at the country level should be on the basis of country-driven activities, arising from the needs of developing countries;

7. Further recognizes that any programmes or projects arising from such collaboration should be fully consistent with national plans and strategies;

8. Reaffirms the importance of an integrated approach so as to facilitate coordination between the United Nations and the Bretton Woods institutions in the implementation and follow-up of the commitments of major United Nations international conferences and summits;

9. Decides that full implementation of existing agreements, the strengthening of existing mechanisms and the establishment of formal agreements, where necessary, between the Bretton Woods institutions and other specialized agencies through, inter alia, memoranda of understanding, covering issues such as participation in relevant meetings, information-gathering, information exchange, research, policy analysis and operational activities, should be encouraged and undertaken within the framework provided by General Assembly and Economic and Social Council resolutions;

10. Further decides to promote joint meetings of the Council and both the Development Committee of the World Bank/International Monetary Fund and the Interim Committee of the International Monetary Fund, aiming at strengthening the exchange of views between those bodies on development issues. Such meetings shall be scheduled at a time proximate to the semi-annual meetings of the Bretton Woods institutions, beginning in 1997, with a view to benefiting from high-level ministerial participation and the participation of heads of financial institutions and other relevant organizations. In that regard, the financial institutions and other relevant organizations should be invited, as and when appropriate, to prepare reports and studies to enhance the discussions. For that purpose, the Secretary-General will propose, in consultations with the heads of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, to the Council at its 1997 organizational session, the issues, date and modalities for the first joint meeting;

11. Decides also to encourage cooperative working relations between the relevant units of the Bretton Woods institutions and the regional commissions, including, inter alia, joint research on the effects of opening regional economies, collaboration in the areas of industrialization and physical and economic infrastructure, and arrangements for data collection and information exchange;

12. Invites the Bretton Woods institutions to prepare special reports and studies for the Council and the General Assembly on issues falling within their competence, in accordance with article V of the Agreement between the United Nations and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the International Monetary Fund;

13. Invites the financial and trade institutions participating in the high-level segment of the Council in 1997 to furnish relevant special reports and studies on the selected theme, within their respective mandates and areas of expertise, and on important developments in the world economy and in international economic cooperation;

14. Also invites the Bretton Woods institutions to prepare special reports for the General Assembly at its fifty-first session on the issue of the multilateral external debt problem of the developing countries and on the issue of challenges and opportunities of global financial integration;

15. Invites further the heads of the Bretton Woods institutions and the United Nations Secretary-General, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 50/227, to provide the General Assembly at its fifty-second session with a report and recommendations on how those institutions can improve their own efforts to support the effective implementation of development projects at the field level, taking into account the guidelines in paragraph 86 of that resolution.

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Agenda item 3 (b)

COORDINATION OF THE POLICIES AND ACTIVITIES OF THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND OTHER BODIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREED CONCLUSIONS ON THE THEME OF THE 1995 COORDINATION SEGMENT OF THE COUNCIL

Canada, Norway and the Russian Federation: draft resolution

Follow-up to General Assembly resolution 50/227: initiation of reviews

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 45/264 of 13 May 1991 and 46/235 of 13 April 1992, Economic and Social Council decision 1996/203 of 9 February 1996, the implementation of the agreed conclusions 1995/1, and the pertinent measures called for in Assembly resolution 50/227 of 24 May 1996,

Conscious of the specific call made by the General Assembly for relevant intergovernmental bodies to fully implement the measures contained in its resolution 50/227,

Reaffirming the central role assigned to the Economic and Social Council in the implementation of Assembly resolution 50/227,

Noting, in particular, the requirements for the Council to review the mandates, composition, functions and working methods of its functional commissions and expert groups and bodies, to consider as a matter of priority the role, working methods and relationship with other bodies of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, the Committee for Development Planning, the Committee on New and Renewable Sources of Energy, and the Committee on Natural Resources, and to provide for the review of the regional commissions with a view to strengthening and enhancing their effectiveness,

Recognizing the potential contribution of the Council's review of the four bodies mentioned above to the review of the implementation of Agenda 21 to be conducted by the General Assembly at its special session of 1997,

Noting with satisfaction the internal reviews already under way in a number of regional commissions,

A. Functional commissions and expert groups and bodies

1. Decides to convene a resumed session of the Economic and Social Council for five days in early 1997 to consider the role, working methods and relationship with other bodies in the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, the Committee for Development Planning, the Committee on New and Renewable Sources of Energy and Energy for Development, and the Committee on Natural Resources;

2. Requests the Secretary-General, in order that the Council may properly prepare for the resumed session, to submit, no later than 1 January 1997, a report on the role, working methods and relationship with other bodies of the four bodies mentioned above, identifying, inter alia:

(a) The principal outputs and/or products emanating from each body;

(b) The other functional commissions and/or expert groups and bodies that make use of those outputs;

(c) Other forums within the United Nations system in which similar issues are discussed;

(d) The issues in each body's purview that require an intergovernmental or expert contribution, and the nature of that contribution;

(e) The source of expert and secretariat support for each body;

3. Resolves to take any further decisions that may be required on the matter of the four bodies mentioned above at its substantive session of 1997;

4. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its substantive session of 1997 the sub-item entitled "Review of the mandates, composition, functions and working methods of functional commissions and expert groups and bodies";

B. Regional commissions

5. Reaffirms the need to provide for a review of the regional commissions with a view to strengthening and enhancing their effectiveness as action-oriented and policy-oriented bodies;

6. Requests the executive secretaries of the regional commissions to undertake and/or complete internal reviews, including priorities for management and functional assessments, and to report to the Council at its substantive session of 1997;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to prepare a report, drawing on the internal reviews of the regional commissions, in order that the Council may properly prepare for its substantive session of 1997;

8. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its substantive session of 1997 the sub-item entitled "Review of the regional commissions".

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Agenda items 2 and 4

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AGAINST THE ILLICIT PRODUCTION, SALE, DEMAND, TRAFFIC AND DISTRIBUTION OF NARCOTICS AND PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

United States of America: draft resolution

Strengthening collaboration between the United Nations development system and the Bretton Woods institutions

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling Chapters IX and X of the Charter of the United Nations, with particular reference to the provisions setting forth the powers and functions of the United Nations Economic and Social Council with respect to making recommendations and coordinating United Nations system activities within the scope of its competence,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 50/227 of 24 May 1996,

Noting that various funds, programmes, commissions and other subsidiary bodies of the Council carry out development programmes and activities, and that the Council provides policy guidance to and coordinates the programmes and activities of those subsidiary bodies,

Noting that the international financial and trade institutions also conduct development programmes and activities, often in the same countries and intended to serve the same people as those carried out by the Council's subsidiary bodies,

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/...

Reaffirming the importance of strengthening cooperation, communication and collaboration between the Council and its subsidiary bodies, on the one hand, and the international financial and trade institutions, on the other, in order to maximize the effectiveness of their respective development programmes and activities,

Concerned that while the development programmes and activities of the financial and trade institutions and of the Council's subsidiary bodies are generally complementary or mutually supportive, there are instances in which improvements in their relationships may be indicated,

Noting in that connection that the Council and its subsidiary bodies could benefit from a direct exchange of views and experiences, drawing upon the particular expertise and comparative advantage of the financial and trade institutions,

Noting that the programmes and activities of the international financial and trade institutions could benefit in a similar fashion from any improvements in the operation, coordination and effectiveness of supportive Council programmes that might be brought about by the Council as a result of enhanced cooperation, collaboration and communication with those institutions,

Reaffirming the importance of the Council's high-level session with the international financial and trade institutions as a forum for advancing such enhanced cooperation, communication and collaboration, and for exchanging views on how the various participants could support one another's efforts,

Noting the need to improve the Council's high-level sessions with the international financial and trade institutions by better preparing for and focusing the high-level dialogue, thereby enhancing the quality, outcomes and value of the exchange of views,

1. Looks forward to the report and accompanying recommendations, to be prepared jointly by the United Nations and the Bretton Woods institutions, as set forth by the General Assembly in its resolution 50/227 of 24 May 1996, 1/ on an exploratory review to assess mechanisms, programmes and relationships at the field, headquarters and intergovernmental levels, with a view to identifying areas in which communication, cooperation and coordination could be improved;

2. Looks forward to the scheduling of a high-level meeting proximate to the semi-annual meetings of the Bretton Woods institutions with a view to benefiting, to the extent possible, from high-level ministerial participation and from the participation of heads of financial and trade institutions and other relevant organizations, as called for by the General Assembly in its resolution 50/227 of 24 May 1996;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to consult the heads of the financial institutions by early 1997 in order to explore the possibilities and practicalities of scheduling such a meeting. At a session of the Council, to be

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1/ See annex I to the resolution, para. 86.

held in early 1997, the Council should discuss the format, timing and possible agenda for the first such meeting;

4. Decides that, prior to the annual high-level policy dialogue between the Council and the international financial and trade institutions, and allowing sufficient time for preparation, the Secretariat should communicate to the financial and trade institutions a report summarizing the relevant issues and questions to be discussed at the session, with a focus on an agreed theme. That communication should be prepared in part based on the submission of issues and questions that member States could be invited to suggest to the Secretariat, which would then be taken into account in the preparation of the Secretariat's report to the institutions.

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Agenda item 8

PERMANENT SOVEREIGNTY OVER NATIONAL RESOURCES IN THE OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN AND OTHER ARAB TERRITORIES

Algeria*, Egypt, Jordan, Mauritania*, Qatar*, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates* and Yemen*: draft resolution

Economic and social repercussions of the Israeli settlements on the Palestinian people in the Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, occupied since 1967, and on the Arab population of the occupied Syrian Golan

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 50/129 of 20 December 1995,

Recalling also its resolution 1995/49 of 25 July 1995,

Reaffirming the principle of the permanent sovereignty of people under foreign occupation over their national resources,

Guided by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, affirming the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force and recalling Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967 and 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981,

Recalling Security Council resolution 465 (1980) of 1 March 1980 and other resolutions affirming the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the

* In accordance with rule 72 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council.

Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, 1/ to the occupied Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel, since 1967,

Recalling also Security Council resolution 904 (1994) of 18 March 1994, in which, among other things, the Council called upon Israel, the occupying Power, to continue to take and implement measures, including inter alia, confiscation of arms, with the aim of preventing illegal acts of violence by Israeli settlers, and called for measures to be taken to guarantee the safety and protection of the Palestinian civilians in the occupied territory,

Aware of the negative and grave economic and social repercussions of the Israeli settlements on the Palestinian people in the Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, occupied since 1967, and on the Arab population of the occupied Syrian Golan,

Welcoming the ongoing Middle East peace process started at Madrid, in particular the signing at Washington on 13 September 1993 by the Government of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people, of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements, 2/ and the signing at Washington on 28 September 1995 of the Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement on the West Bank and Gaza Strip,

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General; 3/

2. Reaffirms that Israeli settlements in the Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied since 1967 are illegal and an obstacle to economic and social development;

3. Recognizes the economic and social repercussions of the Israeli settlements on the Palestinian people in the Palestinian territory, including Jerusalem, occupied by Israel since 1967, and on the Arab population of the occupied Syrian Golan;

4. Reaffirms the inalienable right of the Palestinian people and the population of the Syrian Golan to their natural and all other economic resources, and regards any infringement thereof as being illegal;

5. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-second session, through the Economic and Social Council, a report on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

1/ United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 75, No. 973.

2/ A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

3/ A/51/135-E/1996/51.

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16 July 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Substantive session of 1996
New York, 24 June-26 July 1996
Agenda item 10

NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Draft decision submitted by the President of the Council on the basis of informal consultations

Non-governmental organizations

The Economic and Social Council, reaffirming the importance of the contributions of non-governmental organizations to the work of the United Nations, and taking into account the contributions made by non-governmental organizations to recent international conferences,

Decides to recommend that the General Assembly examine, at its fifty-first session, the question of the participation of non-governmental organizations in all areas of the work of the United Nations, in the light of the experience gained through the arrangements for consultation between non-governmental organizations and the Economic and Social Council.

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NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Draft resolution submitted by the President of the Council on the basis of informal consultations

Consultative relationship between the United Nations and non-governmental organizations

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling Article 71 of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolution 1993/80 of 30 July 1993, in which it requested a general review of arrangements for consultation with non-governmental organizations, with a view to updating, if necessary, Council resolution 1296 (XLIV) of 23 May 1968, as well as introducing coherence in the rules governing the participation of non-governmental organizations in international conferences convened by the United Nations, and also an examination of ways and means of improving practical arrangements for the work of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations and the Non-Governmental Organizations Section of the Secretariat,

Recalling also its decision 1995/304 of 26 July 1995,

Confirming the need to take into account the full diversity of the non-governmental organizations at the national, regional and international levels,

Acknowledging the breadth of non-governmental organizations' expertise and the capacity of non-governmental organizations to support the work of the United Nations,

Taking into account the changes in the non-governmental sector, including the emergence of a large number of national and regional organizations,

Calling upon the governing bodies of the relevant organizations, bodies and specialized agencies of the United Nations system to examine the principles and practices relating to their consultations with non-governmental organizations and to take action, as appropriate, to promote coherence in the light of the provisions of the present resolution,

Approves the following update of the arrangements set out in its resolution 1296 (XLIV) of 23 May 1968:

ARRANGEMENTS FOR CONSULTATION WITH NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Part I

PRINCIPLES TO BE APPLIED IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF CONSULTATIVE RELATIONS

The following principles shall be applied in establishing consultative relations with non-governmental organizations:

1. The organization shall be concerned with matters falling within the competence of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies.

2. The aims and purposes of the organization shall be in conformity with the spirit, purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

3. The organization shall undertake to support the work of the United Nations and to promote knowledge of its principles and activities, in accordance with its own aims and purposes and the nature and scope of its competence and activities.

4. Except where expressly stated otherwise, the term organization will refer to non-governmental organizations at the national, subregional, regional or international levels.

5. Consultative relationships may be established with international, regional, subregional and national organizations, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and the principles and criteria established under the present resolution. The Committee, in considering applications for consultative status, should ensure, to the extent possible, participation of non-governmental organizations from all regions, and particularly from developing countries, in order to help achieve a just, balanced, effective and genuine involvement of non-governmental organizations from all regions and areas of the world. The Committee shall also pay particular attention to non-governmental organizations which have special expertise or experience upon which the Council may wish to draw.

6. Greater participation of non-governmental organizations from developing countries in international conferences convened by the United Nations should be encouraged.

7. Greater involvement of non-governmental organizations from countries with economies in transition should be encouraged.

8. Regional, subregional and national organizations, including those affiliated to an international organization already in status, may be admitted provided that they can demonstrate that their programme of work is of direct relevance to the aims and purposes of the United Nations and, in the case of national organizations, after consultation with the Member State concerned. The views expressed by the Member State, if any, shall be communicated to the non-governmental organization concerned, which shall have the opportunity to respond to those views through the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations.

9. The organization shall be of recognized standing within the particular field of its competence or of a representative character. Where there exist a number of organizations with similar objectives, interests and basic views in a given field, they may, for the purposes of consultation with the Council, form a joint committee or other body authorized to carry on such consultation for the group as a whole.

10. The organization shall have an established headquarters, with an executive officer. It shall have a democratically adopted constitution, a copy of which shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, and which shall provide for the determination of policy by a conference, congress or other representative body, and for an executive organ responsible to the policy-making body.

11. The organization shall have authority to speak for its members through its authorized representatives. Evidence of this authority shall be presented, if requested.

12. The organization shall have a representative structure and possess appropriate mechanisms of accountability to its members, who shall exercise effective control over its policies and actions through the exercise of voting rights or other appropriate democratic and transparent decision-making processes. Any such organization which is not established by a governmental entity or intergovernmental agreement shall be considered as a non-governmental organization for the purpose of these arrangements, including organizations which accept members designated by governmental authorities, provided that such membership does not interfere with the free expression of views of the organization.

13. The basic resources of the organization shall be derived in the main part from contributions of the national affiliates or other components or from individual members. Where voluntary contributions have been received, their amounts and donors shall be faithfully revealed to the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations. Where, however, the above criterion is not fulfilled and an organization is financed from other sources, it must explain to the satisfaction of the Committee its reasons for not meeting the requirements

laid down in this paragraph. Any financial contribution or other support, direct or indirect, from a Government to the organization shall be openly declared to the Committee through the Secretary-General and fully recorded in the financial and other records of the organization and shall be devoted to purposes in accordance with the aims of the United Nations.

14. In considering the establishment of consultative relations with a non-governmental organization, the Council will take into account whether the field of activity of the organization is wholly or mainly within the field of a specialized agency, and whether or not it could be admitted when it has, or may have, a consultative arrangement with a specialized agency.

15. The granting, suspension and withdrawal of consultative status, as well as the interpretation of norms and decisions relating to this matter, are the prerogative of Member States exercised through the Economic and Social Council and its Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations. A non-governmental organization applying for general or special consultative status or a listing on the Roster shall have the opportunity to respond to any objections being raised in the Committee before the Committee takes its decision.

16. The provisions of the present resolution shall apply to the United Nations regional commissions and their subsidiary bodies mutatis mutandis.

17. In recognizing the evolving relationship between the United Nations and non-governmental organizations, the Economic and Social Council, in consultation with the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, will consider reviewing the consultative arrangements as and when necessary to facilitate, in the most effective manner possible, the contributions of non-governmental organizations to the work of the United Nations.

Part II

PRINCIPLES GOVERNING THE NATURE OF THE CONSULTATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

18. A clear distinction is drawn in the Charter of the United Nations between participation without vote in the deliberations of the Council and the arrangements for consultation. Under Articles 69 and 70, participation is provided for only in the case of States not members of the Council, and of specialized agencies. Article 71, applying to non-governmental organizations, provides for suitable arrangements for consultation. This distinction, deliberately made in the Charter, is fundamental and the arrangements for consultation should not be such as to accord to non-governmental organizations the same rights of participation as are accorded to States not members of the Council and to the specialized agencies brought into relationship with the United Nations.

19. The arrangements should not be such as to overburden the Council or transform it from a body for coordination of policy and action, as contemplated in the Charter, into a general forum for discussion.

20. Decisions on arrangements for consultation should be guided by the principle that consultative arrangements are to be made, on the one hand, for the purpose of enabling the Council or one of its bodies to secure expert information or advice from organizations having special competence in the subjects for which consultative arrangements are made, and, on the other hand, to enable international, regional, subregional and national organizations which represent important elements of public opinion to express their views. Therefore, the arrangements for consultation made with each organization should relate to the subjects for which that organization has a special competence or in which it has a special interest. The organizations given consultative status should be limited to those whose activities in fields set out in paragraph 1 above qualify them to make a significant contribution to the work of the Council and should, in sum, as far as possible reflect in a balanced way the major viewpoints or interests in these fields in all areas and regions of the world.

Part III

ESTABLISHMENT OF CONSULTATIVE RELATIONSHIPS

21. In establishing consultative relationships with each organization, regard shall be had to the nature and scope of its activities and to the assistance it may be expected to give to the Council or its subsidiary bodies in carrying out the functions set out in Chapters IX and X of the Charter of the United Nations.

22. Organizations which are concerned with most of the activities of the Council and its subsidiary bodies and can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Council that they have substantive and sustained contributions to make to the achievement of the objectives of the United Nations in the fields as set out in paragraph 1 above, and are closely involved with the economic and social life of the peoples of the areas they represent and whose membership, which should be considerable, is broadly representative of major segments of society in a large number of countries in different regions of the world shall be known as organizations in general consultative status.

23. Organizations which have a special competence in, and are concerned specifically with, only a few of the fields of activity covered by the Council and its subsidiary bodies, and which are known within the fields for which they have or seek consultative status shall be known as organizations in special consultative status.

24. Other organizations which do not have general or special consultative status but which the Council, or the Secretary-General of the United Nations in consultation with the Council or its Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, considers can make occasional and useful contributions to the work of the Council or its subsidiary bodies or other United Nations bodies within their competence shall be included in a list (to be known as the Roster). This list may also include organizations in consultative status or similar relationship with a specialized agency or a United Nations body. These organizations shall be available for consultation at the request of the Council or its subsidiary bodies. The fact that an organization is on the Roster shall

not in itself be regarded as a qualification for general or special consultative status should an organization seek such status.

25. Organizations to be accorded special consultative status because of their interest in the field of human rights should pursue the goals of promotion and protection of human rights in accordance with the spirit of the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action.

26. Major organizations one of whose primary purposes is to promote the aims, objectives and purposes of the United Nations and a furtherance of the understanding of its work may be accorded consultative status.

Part IV

CONSULTATION WITH THE COUNCIL

Provisional agenda

27. The provisional agenda of the Council shall be communicated to organizations in general consultative status and special consultative status and to those on the Roster.

28. Organizations in general consultative status may propose to the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations that the Committee request the Secretary-General to place items of special interest to the organizations on the provisional agenda of the Council.

Attendance at meetings

29. Organizations in general consultative status and special consultative status may designate authorized representatives to sit as observers at public meetings of the Council and its subsidiary bodies. Those on the Roster may have representatives present at such meetings concerned with matters within their field of competence. These attendance arrangements may be supplemented to include other modalities of participation.

Written statements

30. Written statements relevant to the work of the Council may be submitted by organizations in general consultative status and special consultative status on subjects in which these organizations have a special competence. Such statements shall be circulated by the Secretary-General of the United Nations to the members of the Council, except those statements which have become obsolete, for example, those dealing with matters already disposed of and those which had already been circulated in some other form.

31. The following conditions shall be observed regarding the submission and circulation of such statements:

(a) The written statement shall be submitted in one of the official languages.

(b) It shall be submitted in sufficient time for appropriate consultation to take place between the Secretary-General and the organization before circulation.

(c) The organization shall give due consideration to any comments which the Secretary-General may make in the course of such consultation before transmitting the statement in final form.

(d) A written statement submitted by an organization in general consultative status will be circulated in full if it does not exceed 2,000 words. Where a statement is in excess of 2,000 words, the organizations shall submit a summary which will be circulated or shall supply sufficient copies of the full text in the working languages for distribution. A statement will also be circulated in full, however, upon a specific request of the Council or its Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations.

(e) A written statement submitted by an organization in special consultative status or on the Roster will be circulated in full if it does not exceed 500 words. Where a statement is in excess of 500 words, the organization shall submit a summary which will be circulated; such statements will be circulated in full, however, upon a specific request of the Council or its Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations.

(f) The Secretary-General, in consultation with the President of the Council, or the Council or its Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, may invite organizations on the Roster to submit written statements. The provisions of subparagraphs (a), (b), (c) and (e) above shall apply to such statements.

(g) A written statement or summary, as the case may be, will be circulated by the Secretary-General in the working languages, and, upon the request of a member of the Council, in any of the official languages.

Oral presentations during meetings

32. (a) The Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations shall make recommendations to the Council as to which organizations in general consultative status should make an oral presentation to the Council and on which items they should be heard. Such organizations shall be entitled to make one statement to the Council, subject to the approval of the Council. In the absence of a subsidiary body of the Council with jurisdiction in a major field of interest to the Council and to organizations in consultative status, the Committee may recommend that organizations in consultative status be heard by the Council on the subject in its field of interest.

(b) Whenever the Council discusses the substance of an item proposed by a non-governmental organization in general consultative status and included in the agenda of the Council, such an organization shall be entitled to present orally to the Council, as appropriate, an introductory statement of an expository nature. Such an organization may be invited by the President of the Council, with the consent of the relevant body, to make, in the course of the discussion of the item before the Council, an additional statement for purposes of clarification.

Part V

CONSULTATION WITH COMMISSIONS AND OTHER SUBSIDIARY ORGANS OF THE COUNCIL

Provisional agenda

33. The provisional agenda of sessions of commissions and other subsidiary organs of the Council shall be communicated to organizations in general consultative status and special consultative status and those on the Roster.

34. Organizations in general consultative status may propose items for the provisional agenda of commissions, subject to the following conditions:

(a) An organization which intends to propose such an item shall inform the Secretary-General of the United Nations at least sixty-three days before the commencement of the session and before formally proposing an item shall give due consideration to any comments the Secretary-General may make.

(b) The proposal shall be formally submitted with the relevant basic documentation not later than forty-nine days before the commencement of the session. The item shall be included in the agenda of the commission if it is adopted by a two thirds majority of those present and voting.

Attendance at meetings

35. Organizations in general consultative status and special consultative status may designate authorized representatives to sit as observers at public meetings of the commissions and other subsidiary organs of the Council. Organizations on the Roster may have representatives present at such meetings which are concerned with matters within their field of competence. These attendance arrangements may be supplemented to include other modalities of participation.

Written statements

36. Written statements relevant to the work of the commissions or other subsidiary organs may be submitted by organizations in general consultative status and special consultative status on subjects for which these organizations have a special competence. Such statements shall be circulated by the Secretary-General to members of the commission or other subsidiary organs, except those statements which have become obsolete, for example, those dealing with matters already disposed of and those which have already been circulated in some other form to members of the commission or other subsidiary organs.

37. The following conditions shall be observed regarding the submission and circulation of such written statements:

(a) The written statement shall be submitted in one of the official languages.

(b) It shall be submitted in sufficient time for appropriate consultation to take place between the Secretary-General and the organization before circulation.

(c) The organization shall give due consideration to any comments which the Secretary-General may make in the course of such consultation before transmitting the statement in final form.

(d) A written statement submitted by an organization in general consultative status will be circulated in full if it does not exceed 2,000 words. Where a statement is in excess of 2,000 words, the organization shall submit a summary, which will be circulated, or shall supply sufficient copies of the full text in the working languages for distribution. A statement will also be circulated in full, however, upon the specific request of the commission or other subsidiary organs.

(e) A written statement submitted by an organization in special consultative status will be circulated in full if it does not exceed 1,500 words. Where a statement is in excess of 1,500 words, the organization shall submit a summary, which will be circulated, or shall supply sufficient copies of the full text in the working languages for distribution. A statement will also be circulated in full, however, upon the specific request of the commission or other subsidiary organs.

(f) The Secretary-General, in consultation with the Chairman of the relevant commission or other subsidiary organ, or the commission or other subsidiary organ itself, may invite organizations on the Roster to submit written statements. The provisions in subparagraphs (a), (b), (c) and (e) above shall apply to such statements.

(g) A written statement or summary, as the case may be, will be circulated by the Secretary-General in the working languages and, upon the

request of a member of the commission or other subsidiary organ, in any of the official languages.

Oral presentations during meetings

38. (a) The commission or other subsidiary organs may consult with organizations in general consultative status and special consultative status either directly or through a committee or committees established for the purpose. In all cases, such consultations may be arranged on the request of the organization.

(b) On the recommendation of the Secretary-General and at the request of the commission or other subsidiary organs, organizations on the Roster may also be heard by the commission or other subsidiary organs.

Special studies

39. Subject to the relevant rules of procedure on financial implications, a commission or other subsidiary organ may recommend that an organization which has special competence in a particular field should undertake specific studies or investigations or prepare specific papers for the commission. The limitations of paragraphs 37 (d) and (e) above shall not apply in this case.

Part VI

CONSULTATIONS WITH AD HOC COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL

40. The arrangements for consultation between ad hoc committees of the Council authorized to meet between sessions of the Council and organizations in general consultative status and special consultative status and on the Roster shall follow those approved for commissions of the Council, unless the Council or the committee decides otherwise.

Part VII

PARTICIPATION OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES CONVENED BY THE UNITED NATIONS AND THEIR PREPARATORY PROCESS

41. Where non-governmental organizations have been invited to participate in an international conference convened by the United Nations, their accreditation is the prerogative of Member States, exercised through the respective preparatory committee. Such accreditation should be preceded by an appropriate process to determine their eligibility.

42. Non-governmental organizations in general consultative status, special consultative status and on the Roster, which express their wish to attend the relevant international conferences convened by the United Nations and the

meetings of the preparatory bodies of the said conferences, shall as a rule be accredited for participation. Other non-governmental organizations wishing to be accredited may apply to the secretariat of the conference for this purpose in accordance with the following requirements.

43. The secretariat of the conference shall be responsible for the receipt and preliminary evaluation of requests from non-governmental organizations for accreditation to the conference and its preparatory process. In the discharge of its functions, the secretariat of the conference shall work in close cooperation and coordination with the Non-Governmental Organizations Section of the Secretariat, and shall be guided by the relevant provisions of Council resolution 1296 (XLIV) as updated.

44. All such applications must be accompanied by information on the competence of the organization and the relevance of its activities to the work of the conference and its preparatory committee, with an indication of the particular areas of the conference agenda and preparations to which such competence and relevance pertain, and should include, inter alia, the following information:

(a) The purpose of the organization;

(b) Information as to the programmes and activities of the organization in areas relevant to the conference and its preparatory process and the country or countries in which they are carried out. Non-governmental organizations seeking accreditation shall be asked to confirm their interest in the goals and objectives of the conference;

(c) Confirmation of the activities of the organization at the national, regional or international level;

(d) Copies of the annual or other reports of the organization with financial statements, and a list of financial sources and contributions, including governmental contributions;

(e) A list of members of the governing body of the organization and their countries of nationality;

(f) A description of the membership of the organization, indicating the total number of members, the names of organizations which are members and their geographical distribution;

(g) A copy of the constitution and/or by-laws of the organization.

45. In the evaluation of the relevance of applications of non-governmental organizations for accreditation to the conference and its preparatory process, it is agreed that a determination will be made based on their background and involvement in the subject areas of the conference.

46. The secretariat shall publish and disseminate to Member States on a periodic basis the updated list of applications received. Member States may submit comments on any of the applications on the list fourteen days from receipt of the above-mentioned list by Member States. The comments of Member

States shall be communicated to the non-governmental organization concerned, which shall have the opportunity to respond.

47. In cases where the secretariat believes, on the basis of the information provided in accordance with the present resolution, that the organization has established its competence and the relevance of its activities to the work of the preparatory committee, it will recommend to the preparatory committee that the organization be accredited. In cases where the secretariat does not recommend the granting of accreditation, it will make available to the preparatory committee its reasons for not doing so. The secretariat should ensure that its recommendations are available to members of the preparatory committee at least one week prior to the start of each session. The secretariat must notify such applicants of the reasons for non-recommendation and provide an opportunity to respond to objections and furnish additional information as may be required.

48. The preparatory committee will decide on all recommendations for accreditation within twenty-four hours after the recommendations of the secretariat have been taken up by the preparatory committee in plenary meeting. In the event of a decision not being taken within this period, interim accreditation shall be accorded until such time as a decision is taken.

49. A non-governmental organization that has been granted accreditation to attend a session of the preparatory committee, including related preparatory meetings of regional commissions, may attend all its future sessions, as well as the conference itself.

50. In recognition of the intergovernmental nature of the conference and its preparatory process, active participation of non-governmental organizations therein, while welcome, does not entail a negotiating role.

51. The non-governmental organizations accredited to the international conference may be given, in accordance with established United Nations practice and at the discretion of the chairperson and the consent of the body concerned, an opportunity to briefly address the preparatory committee and the conference in plenary meetings and their subsidiary bodies.

52. Non-governmental organizations accredited to the conference may make written presentations during the preparatory process in the official languages of the United Nations as they deem appropriate. Those written presentations will not be issued as official documents except in accordance with United Nations rules of procedure.

53. Non-governmental organizations without consultative status that participate in international conferences and wish to obtain consultative status later on should apply through the normal procedures established under Council resolution 1296 (XLIV) as updated. Recognizing the importance of the participation of non-governmental organizations that attend a conference in the follow-up process, the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, in considering their application, shall draw upon the documents already submitted by that organization for accreditation to the conference and any additional information submitted by the non-governmental organization supporting its interest,

relevance and capacity to contribute to the implementation phase. The Committee shall review such applications as expeditiously as possible so as to allow participation of the respective organization in the implementation phase of the conference. In the interim, the Economic and Social Council shall decide on the participation of non-governmental organizations accredited to an international conference in the work of the relevant functional commission on the follow-up to and implementation of that conference.

54. The suspension and withdrawal of the accreditation of non-governmental organizations to United Nations international conferences at all stages shall be guided by the relevant provisions of the present resolution.

Part VIII

SUSPENSION AND WITHDRAWAL OF CONSULTATIVE STATUS

55. Organizations granted consultative status by the Council and those on the Roster shall conform at all times to the principles governing the establishment and nature of their consultative relations with the Council. In periodically reviewing the activities of non-governmental organizations on the basis of the reports submitted under paragraph 61 (c) below and other relevant information, the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations shall determine the extent to which the organizations have complied with the principles governing consultative status and have contributed to the work of the Council, and may recommend to the Council suspension or exclusion from consultative status of organizations which have not met the requirements for consultative status as set forth in the present resolution.

56. In cases where the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations has decided to recommend that the general or special consultative status of a non-governmental organization or its listing on the Roster be suspended or withdrawn, the non-governmental organization concerned shall be given written reasons for that decision and shall have an opportunity to present its response for appropriate consideration by the Committee as expeditiously as possible.

57. The consultative status of non-governmental organizations with the Economic and Social Council and the listing of those on the Roster shall be suspended up to three years or withdrawn in the following cases:

(a) If an organization, either directly or through its affiliates or representatives acting on its behalf, clearly abuses its status by engaging in a pattern of acts contrary to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations including unsubstantiated or politically motivated acts against Member States of the United Nations incompatible with those purposes and principles;

(b) If there exists substantiated evidence of influence from proceeds resulting from internationally recognized criminal activities such as the illicit drugs trade, money laundering or the illegal arms trade;

(c) If, within the preceding three years, an organization had not made any positive or effective contribution to the work of the United Nations and, in particular, of the Council or its commissions or other subsidiary organs.

58. The consultative status of organizations in general consultative status and special consultative status and the listing of those on the Roster will be suspended or withdrawn by the decision of the Economic and Social Council on the recommendation of its Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations.

59. An organization whose consultative status or whose listing on the Roster is withdrawn may be entitled to reapply for consultative status or for inclusion on the Roster not sooner than three years after the effective date of such withdrawal.

Part IX

COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

60. The members of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations shall be elected by the Council on the basis of equitable geographical representation, in accordance with the relevant Council resolutions 1/ and rules of procedure of the Council. 2/ The Committee shall elect its Chairman and other officers as necessary.

61. The functions of the Committee shall include the following:

(a) The Committee shall be responsible for regular monitoring of the evolving relationship between non-governmental organizations and the United Nations. With a view to fulfilling this responsibility, the Committee shall hold, before each of its sessions, and at other times as necessary, consultations with organizations in consultative status to discuss questions of interest to the Committee or to the organizations relating to the relationship between the non-governmental organizations and the United Nations. A report on such consultations will be transmitted to the Council for appropriate action.

(b) The Committee shall hold its regular session before the substantive session of the Council each year and preferably before the meetings of functional commissions of the Council to consider applications for general consultative status and special consultative status and for listing on the Roster made by non-governmental organizations and requests for changes in status, and to make recommendations thereon to the Council. Upon approval by the Council, the Committee may hold

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1/ Council resolutions 1099 (XL) and 1981/50 and Council decision 1995/304.

2/ Rule 80 of the rules of procedure of the Council.

other meetings as required to fulfil its mandated responsibilities. Organizations shall give due consideration to any comments on technical matters which the Secretary-General of the United Nations may make in receiving such applications for the Committee. The Committee shall consider at each such session applications received by the Secretary-General not later than 1 June of the preceding year, on which sufficient data have been distributed to the members of the Committee not later than six weeks before the applications are to be considered. Transitional arrangements, if possible, may be made during the current year only. Reapplication by an organization for status, or a request for a change in status, shall be considered by the Committee at the earliest at its first session in the second year following the session at which the substance of the previous application or request was considered, unless at the time of such consideration it was decided otherwise.

(c) Organizations in general consultative status and special consultative status shall submit to the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations through the Secretary-General every fourth year a brief report of their activities, specifically as regards the support they have given to the work of the United Nations. Based on findings of the Committee's examination of the report and other relevant information, the Committee may recommend to the Council any reclassification in status of the organization concerned as it deems appropriate. However, under exceptional circumstances, the Committee may ask for such a report from an individual organization in general consultative status or special consultative status or on the Roster, between the regular reporting dates.

(d) The Committee may consult, in connection with sessions of the Council or at such other times as it may decide, with organizations in general consultative status and special consultative status on matters within their competence, other than items on the agenda of the Council, on which the Council or the Committee or the organization requests consultation. The Committee shall report to the Council on such consultations.

(e) The Committee may consult, in connection with any particular session of the Council, with organizations in general consultative status and special consultative status on matters within the competence of the organizations concerning specific items already on the provisional agenda of the Council on which the Council or the Committee or the organization requests consultation, and shall make recommendations as to which organizations, subject to the provisions of paragraph 32 (a) above, should be heard by the Council or the appropriate committee and regarding which subjects should be heard. The Committee shall report to the Council on such consultations.

(f) The Committee shall consider matters concerning non-governmental organizations which may be referred to it by the Council or by commissions.

(g) The Committee shall consult with the Secretary-General, as appropriate, on matters affecting the consultative arrangements under Article 71 of the Charter, and arising therefrom.

(h) An organization which applies for consultative status should justify that it has been in existence for at least two years as at the date of receipt of the application by the Secretariat. Evidence of such existence shall be furnished to the Secretariat.

62. The Committee, in considering a request from a non-governmental organization in general consultative status that an item be placed on the agenda of the Council, shall take into account, among other things:

(a) The adequacy of the documentation submitted by the organization;

(b) The extent to which it is considered that the item lends itself to early and constructive action by the Council;

(c) The possibility that the item might be more appropriately dealt with elsewhere than in the Council.

63. Any decision by the Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations not to grant a request submitted by a non-governmental organization in general consultative status that an item be placed on the provisional agenda of the Council shall be considered as final unless the Council decides otherwise.

Part X

CONSULTATION WITH THE SECRETARIAT

64. The Secretariat should be so organized as to enable it to carry out the duties assigned to it concerning the consultative arrangements and the accreditation of non-governmental organizations to United Nations international conferences as set forth in the present resolution.

65. All organizations in consultative relationship shall be able to consult with officers of the appropriate sections of the Secretariat on matters in which there is a mutual interest or a mutual concern. Such consultation shall be upon the request of the non-governmental organization or upon the request of the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

66. The Secretary-General may request organizations in general consultative status and special consultative status and those on the Roster to carry out specific studies or prepare specific papers, subject to the relevant financial regulations.

67. The Secretary-General shall be authorized, within the means at his disposal, to offer to non-governmental organizations in consultative relationship facilities which include:

(a) Prompt and efficient distribution of such documents of the Council and its subsidiary bodies as shall in the judgement of the Secretary-General be appropriate;

(b) Access to the press documentation services provided by the United Nations;

(c) Arrangement of informal discussions on matters of special interest to groups or organizations;

(d) Use of the libraries of the United Nations;

(e) Provision of accommodation for conferences or smaller meetings of consultative organizations on the work of the Economic and Social Council;

(f) Appropriate seating arrangements and facilities for obtaining documents during public meetings of the General Assembly dealing with matters in the economic, social and related fields.

Part XI

SECRETARIAT SUPPORT

68. Adequate Secretariat support will be required to fulfil the mandate defined for the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations to carry out the wider range of activities in which the enhanced involvement of non-governmental organizations is envisaged. The Secretary-General is requested to provide the necessary resources for this purpose and to take steps for improving the coordination within the Secretariat of units dealing with non-governmental organizations.

69. The Secretary-General is requested to make every effort to enhance and streamline as appropriate Secretariat support arrangements, and to improve practical arrangements on such matters as greater use of modern information and communication technology, the establishment of an integrated database of non-governmental organizations, wide and timely dissemination of information on meetings, distribution of documentation, provision of access and transparent, simple and streamlined procedures for the attendance of non-governmental organizations in United Nations meetings, and to facilitate their broad-based participation.

70. The Secretary-General is requested to make this resolution widely known, through proper channels, to facilitate the involvement of non-governmental organizations from all regions and areas of the world.

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NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Draft resolution submitted by the President of the Council
on the basis of informal consultations

Consultative relationship between the United Nations
and non-governmental organizations

Corrigendum

Page 7, paragraph 32 (a)

Replace the existing text with the following:

32. (a) The Council Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations shall make recommendations to the Council as to which organizations in general consultative status should make an oral presentation to the Council and on which items they should be heard. Such organizations shall be entitled to make one statement to the Council, subject to the approval of the Council. In the absence of a subsidiary body of the Council with jurisdiction in a major field of interest to the Council and to organizations in special consultative status, the Committee may recommend that organizations in special consultative status be heard by the Council on the subject in its field of interest.

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